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gravelly margins of lakes and pools where it is ordinarily covered with water. Gray's Manual gives June and July as its flowering season, but I have never seen it even in bud before August, and I do not think it is in pod (and therefore in the best state for examination and identification) before September.

ANNIE TRUMBULL SLOSSON.

Immediate Influence of Crossing or Hybridizing on Fruits and Seeds.

Much writing, though few experiments, has been offered lately on this subject. Anxious to go, myself, over experiments recorded in the early part of the century in relation to sterility in hybrid *Verbascums*, I crossed *Verbascum Blattaria* with *V. Thapsus* the past summer. I need not go over the precautions taken to prevent the use of self pollen—every one of experience knows how to make these precautions absolutely certain in their results. Again, I may note that the seeds of these two species are very distinct as seen under a lens. *Thapsus* has gray seeds, which taper as if they were the ends of corn-cobs—those of *Blattaria* are dark brown, and in form as if they came from the middle portion of an ear of corn. The hybrid seed-vessel and the hybrid seeds were exactly those of its female parent, *V. Blattaria*. I have plants growing, and shall have to wait another year to know if they are sterile, but that is another question. But as we know that there is an immediate effect on the seed in crossing in Indian corn, the *Verbascum* experiment simply shows one more case where there is none.

THOMAS MEEHAN.

Teratological.—I have seen, this year, a common cooking-bean with three cotyledons; also, within a few days, a horsechestnut bur containing three perfect seeds.

W. W. BAILEY.

Rudbeckia.—I see by Dr. Gray's Synopsis, just received, that what I figured as *Rudbeckia fulgida* in my Flowers and Ferns he regards as *R. speciosa*. What I have said about *R. fulgida* in my note on page 94 of the BULLETIN refers to his *speciosa*.

THOMAS MEEHAN.

Synspermy in the Horsechestnut.—After sending a note lately upon a three-seeded horsechestnut, I found those with two seeds so common as to be unworthy of mention. So perhaps is the case I cited. Now, however, I can record a greater rarity, viz., a complete union of two seeds into one, the attachment being at the hilum. As I wish to preserve the specimen, I have not dis severed the parts to ascertain whether the union is by more than the integuments, but it looks as if it were. Under *Synspermy*, Dr. M. T. Masters, in a footnote, gives the case of *Æsculus Hippocastanum*, but considers the phenomenon unusual.

Providence, R. I.

W. W. BAILEY.

Note on the May-Apple.—Prof. T. C. Porter kindly sends me a copy of the *Botanical Gazette*, 1877, No. 9, describing essentially the